

CLAIMS:

1. A dialog system for dialog between an operator of an aircraft and at least one system of the aircraft, comprising:

a display configured to display at least one window including a plurality of responsive objects respectively associated with one of multiple functions of the at least one system of the aircraft;

a cursor control device including a cursor moving mechanism configured to move a cursor on the display so as to designate a responsive object such that when the cursor is on the responsive object, a main object marker appears and designates the responsive object; and

an auxiliary control device including a discrete moving mechanism configured to cause a discrete displacement of an auxiliary object marker on the display, responsive object by responsive object, so as to designate a responsive object without affecting control of the main object marker.

2. The dialog system according to claim 1,

wherein the cursor control device further includes a first activation mechanism configured to activate a function associated with the responsive object designated by the main object marker, and

wherein the auxiliary control device further includes a second activation mechanism configured to activate a function associated with the responsive object designated by the auxiliary object marker.

3. The dialog system according to claim 2,

wherein the discrete moving mechanism and the second activation mechanism comprise keys on a separate stand-alone unit.

4. The dialog system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a keyboard configured to allow the operator to enter data,

wherein the discrete moving mechanism comprises keys on the keyboard.

5. The dialog system according to claim 1,

wherein the responsive objects are arranged according to at least one direction defined on a corresponding window, and

wherein the discrete moving mechanism comprises an arrow key on a keyboard that discretely displaces the auxiliary object marker from one responsive object to another responsive object in the at least one direction.

6. The dialog system according to claim 1,

wherein the main object marker has priority over the auxiliary object marker such that when the main object marker and the auxiliary object marker are on a same responsive object, the main object marker appears.

7. The dialog system according to claim 1,

wherein the cursor control device causes the cursor to move in a continuous manner on the display.

8. The dialog system according to claim 1,

wherein the at least one window includes a plurality of windows, and
wherein the cursor control device further includes a window moving mechanism configured to move the cursor discretely from one window to another window in the plurality of windows.

9. The dialog system according to claim 1,

wherein the display includes a plurality of displays, and
wherein the cursor control device includes a display moving mechanism configured to move the cursor from one display to another display in the plurality of displays.

10. The dialog system according to claim 1,

wherein the auxiliary control device is activated during an emergency mode of the aircraft.

11. The dialog system according to claim 1, further comprising:

another set of the cursor control device and the auxiliary control device,

wherein a first set of the cursor control device and the auxiliary control device is configured to be operated by a pilot of the aircraft, and a second set of the cursor control device and the auxiliary control device is configured to be operated by a copilot of the aircraft.

12. A dialog system for dialog between an operator of an aircraft and at least one system of the aircraft, comprising:

means for displaying at least one window including a plurality of responsive objects respectively associated with one of multiple functions of the at least one system of the aircraft;

means for moving a cursor on the means for displaying so as to designate a responsive object such that when the cursor is on the responsive object, a main object marker appears and designates the responsive object; and

means for causing a discrete displacement of an auxiliary object marker on the means for displaying, responsive object by responsive object, so as to designate a responsive object without affecting control of the main object marker.

13. The dialog system according to claim 12,

wherein the means for moving the cursor further includes a first means for activating a function associated with the responsive object designated by the main object marker, and

wherein the means for causing the discrete displacement of the auxiliary object marker further includes a second means for activating a function associated with the responsive object designated by the auxiliary object marker.

14. The dialog system according to claim 13,

wherein the means for causing the discrete displacement of the auxiliary object marker and the second means for activating comprise keys on a separate stand-alone unit.

15. The dialog system according to claim 12, further comprising:

means for allowing the operator to enter data,

wherein the means for causing the discrete displacement of the auxiliary object marker comprises keys on the means for allowing the operator to enter data.

16. The dialog system according to claim 12,
wherein the responsive objects are arranged according to at least one direction defined on a corresponding window, and
wherein the means for causing the discrete displacement of the auxiliary object marker comprises an arrow key on a keyboard that discretely displaces the auxiliary object marker from one responsive object to another responsive object in the at least one direction.

17. The dialog system according to claim 12,
wherein the main object marker has priority over the auxiliary object marker such that when the main object marker and the auxiliary object marker are on a same responsive object, the main object marker appears.

18. The dialog system according to claim 12,
wherein the means for moving the cursor causes the cursor to move in a continuous manner on the means for displaying.

19. The dialog system according to claim 12,
wherein the at least one window includes a plurality of windows, and
wherein the means for moving the cursor further includes means for moving the cursor discretely from one window to another window in the plurality of windows.

20. The dialog system according to claim 12,
wherein the means for displaying includes a plurality of display means, and
wherein the means for moving the cursor includes a means for moving the cursor from one display to another display in the plurality of display means.

21. The dialog system according to claim 12,
wherein the means for causing the discrete displacement of the auxiliary object marker is activated during an emergency mode of the aircraft.

22. The dialog system according to claim 12, further comprising:

another set of the means for moving the cursor and the means for causing the discrete displacement of the auxiliary object marker,

wherein a first set of the means for moving the cursor and the means for causing the discrete displacement of the auxiliary object marker is configured to be operated by a pilot of the aircraft, and a second set of the means for moving the cursor and the means for causing the discrete displacement of the auxiliary object marker is configured to be operated by a copilot of the aircraft.